

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of:) Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned
 CANTRELL et al.)
 Serial No.: Not yet assigned) Examiner: Not yet assigned
 Filed: Herewith)
 Atty. File No.: 1585 WO/US)
 Title: Process for the Preparation of Quaternary)
 N-Alkyl Morphinan Alkaloid Salts)
)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
 I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE
 IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES
 POSTAL SERVICE AS EXPRESS MAIL IN AN
 ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO COMMISSIONER FOR
 PATENTS APRIL 5, 2005.

Barbara A. Krisch
 BARBARA A. KRISCH

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
 PO Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

For entry into the U.S. National Stage from the PCT, the above-identified national stage application is concurrently being amended as follows. Claims 4, 5, 8-10, 12-14, 16-27, 33, 35, and 40-56 are not being entered and are therefore cancelled from examination, and no new claims are being added. Accordingly, 22 claims (Claims 1-3, 6, 7, 11, 15, 28-32, 34, 36-39, and 57-61) are initially being presented for examination. Of those 22 claims, only two (Claims 1 and 57) are independent. Thus, no filing fees under 37 CFR 1.16(h) are believed to be due and \$100.00 in filing fees under 37 CFR 1.16(i) for 2 claims in excess of twenty are believed to be due. A separate cover sheet setting forth the amount of the fees and an authorization to charge the fees to a deposit account is attached. However, in the event of an error, it is requested that any fees due be charged to Deposit Account No. 13-1160.

The above-mentioned revisions of the claims are reflected in the listing of the claims which may be found on pages 2-6 of this correspondence.

It is believed that this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early notice of allowance is hereby requested. Should the Office believe that a telephone conference would expedite allowance, the Office is invited to contact the undersigned at (314) 654-3939.

Respectfully submitted,
 Mallinckrodt Inc.

Christine Rebman
 Christine M. Rebman, Esq.
 Reg. No. 50,546